

BOB GOODLATTE
6TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

2309 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4806
(202) 225-5431
FAX (202) 225-9681
www.house.gov/goodlatte

CHAIRMAN, HOUSE REPUBLICAN
TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP

CO-CHAIR,
CONGRESSIONAL INTERNET CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL
ANTI-PIRACY CAUCUS

CONGRESSIONAL CIVIL
JUSTICE CAUCUS



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 12, 2014

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
VICE CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,
AND CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, OVERSIGHT,
AND NUTRITION

DEPUTY WHIP

232

The Hon. Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

VIA FAX

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

I am happy to write to you on behalf of MGW Networks, LLC and its application for assistance from the Rural Broadband Experiments Connect America Fund. I wholeheartedly support MGW's effort as part of the Federal Communications Commission's effort to transform America's telecommunications infrastructure.

MGW is a third-generation, family-owned telecommunications company that began serving Bath County, Virginia in 1967. The company continues to serve Bath and has expanded to Augusta and Highland Counties in rural Western Virginia and Carroll, Grayson, Pulaski, and Wythe Counties in rural Southwest Virginia, providing Carrier Class local and long distance voice and Internet services.

MGW's project will build "middle mile" backbone technology in the form of FFTH to provide homes and businesses with broadband services. The company will employ GPON and Fixed Wireless technology to provide local governments, businesses, universities, community organizations, and residential customers with improved, more reliable broadband services. Some areas will get broadband services for the first time.

I fully support MGW Networks' application for \$4.6 million for its broadband deployment project. I ask that you give full and favorable consideration to approving the project for the benefit of my constituents in the rural regions of Virginia's Sixth District who have been served so reliably by MGW.

Very truly yours,

Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress

☐ 70 NORTH MASON STREET
HARRISONBURG, VA 22802-4126
(540) 432-2391
FAX (540) 432-6593

☐ 916 MAIN STREET
SUITE 300
LYNCHBURG, VA 24504-1608
(434) 845-8306
FAX (434) 845-8245

☒ 10 FRANKLIN ROAD, S.E.
SUITE 540
ROANOKE, VA 24011-2121
(540) 857-2672
FAX (540) 857-2875

☐ 117 SOUTH LEWIS STREET
SUITE 215
STAUNTON, VA 24401-4282
(540) 885-3861
FAX (540) 885-3930

10 Franklin Road, S.E.
Suite 540
Roanoke, Virginia 24011
PHONE: 540-857-2672
FAX: 540-857-2675
E-MAIL: Pete.Larkin@mail.house.gov

Congressman Bob Goodlatte
Sixth District of Virginia

Fax

To: Mr. Greg Guice, Director, Office of
Legislative Affairs, Federal
Communications Commission

From: Pete Larkin, Chief of Staff
Congressman Bob Goodlatte

Fax: 202-418-2806

Pages: 1

Phone: 202-418-1911

Date: 3/14/2014

Re: Letter of support

CC:

Urgent

X For Review

☐ **Please Comment**

X Please Reply

☐ **Please Recycle**

The information contained in this fax is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering this fax to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any use, dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this fax in error, please notify Congressman Goodlatte's Roanoke office at 540-857-2672



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

April 11, 2014

The Honorable Bob Goodlatte
U.S. House of Representatives
2309 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Goodlatte:

Thank you for your letters regarding BARC Electric Cooperative (BARC) and MGW Networks, LLC (MGW), and their Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) broadband deployment projects. I appreciate your views and will ensure that your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

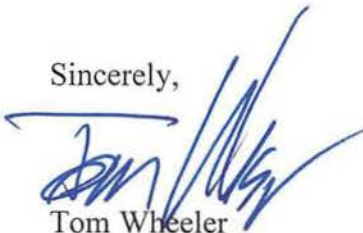
In a unanimously adopted *Technology Transitions Order* (Order) in January, the Commission recognized that particular challenges exist for the deployment of next generation communications services in rural areas. In order to inform our policies on building next generation networks in rural America, the Commission invited parties to submit expressions of interest to construct high bandwidth networks in rural, high-cost areas, including Tribal lands.

Nearly 1,000 parties, representing a diverse set of entities, have filed expressions of interest. The list includes rural telephone companies, electric co-ops, cable and wireless Internet service providers, schools and libraries, research and education networks, and rural communities. Their proposals reflect the understanding that high bandwidth services are becoming increasingly important to the future of economic development, education, health care, government services, entertainment, information, communication and creativity.

The Commission currently is reviewing the expressions of interest that have been submitted, including those of BARC and MGW, and we have sought public comment on a number of rural broadband experiment issues, including the size of the budget and selection criteria to be used in reviewing proposals. After completing a review of the submissions and the record in response to our further notice of proposed rulemaking, the Commission would adopt an order setting a budget and establishing detailed selection criteria for rural broadband experiments. At that point, we would invite parties, such as BARC and MGW, to submit formal proposals for consideration by Commission staff.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler